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CENTRAL NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES THE SUCCESS OF NJ/K12 ARCHITECTS BUILD AND BELIEVE PROGRAM

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the success of twelve apprentice architects and their mentors. These twelve students from Trenton Central High School and Lawrence High School participated in an intensive summer program in which they learned architectural and design skills that allowed them to design two projects. Divided into three groups, each group prepared an original design for a warehouse and a renovation design for a building at Trenton Central High School. Then simulating a business world, they prepared proposals for each project to go to bid. These projects represent hours of hard work, dedication, collaboration and communication among students, mentors and community members. This program is a fine example of teaching practical math skills. It involves identifying a problem, developing an approach to solve it, testing that approach, and eventually implementing a solution.

The students worked under the leadership of three mentor architects, Vince Myers, Harvey Myers and Bob Iamello. They were divided into three studios: Latin Architects in Action, Edgar Gonzales, Byron Zacarias, Judith Rodriques, Raykel Abreu; Professional Building Design Architects, Patrick Alvarado, Shaneeka Ingram, Edwin Zacarias, Brandon Bey; Architect Design Perfection, Leidy Toro, John Frink, Jamie Rodas, Vamey Keita. Working together as mentor and studio, each student learned many skills including design, math computation, teamwork, public speaking, critical evaluation and long-range thinking.

Programs like these reflect my values about the necessity for excellent math and science education. Math is not just another subject. Math is fundamental like reading. A mathematical framework provides us the skill for life-long learning, for creating progress itself. These are very important skills for the very complex times in which we live.

I ask that all the Members join me in congratulating these 12 students and three mentors for their excellence in using mathematics to design real buildings for real life.

TRIBUTE TO MARY DAVIS ON HER 108TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Mary Davis, a resident of the Bronx, New York who will turn 108 this month. Ms. Davis is a living testimony to the indomitable spirit of our great nation.

Born December 12, 1895 in Florida, Ms. Davis was the granddaughter of slaves, whom

she still has very clear memories of. This incredible woman witnessed an America that almost none of us can say we truly knew; an America that wrestled to establish the ideals of democracy and freedom while continuing to oppress and terrorize those of African descent. However, like many African Americans of her time, Ms. Davis transcended that oppression and in doing so helped bring a nation closer to its great potential.

The proud mother of five daughters, grandmother of 10 grandchildren and great grandmother of 30 great grandchildren, Ms. Davis spent most of her life working as a nanny and housekeeper to support her family. Today, she lives alone in the Bronx and is described by those close to her as being a lovable, God fearing woman who still attends her church, the Great Methodist Baptist Church of Manhattan, regularly.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Davis lived through two World Wars, the Cold War, Vietnam, and two wars in Iraq. She has seen 20 Presidents enter the White House and witnessed America's role in the world evolve from a non-influential nation to the most powerful nation the world has ever known. She was here before Henry Ford introduced the Model T, and even before the Wright Brothers took their famous flight in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. There are only a few people on earth who can say that they have witnessed all of these events first hand and Ms. Davis should certainly be proud to be one of them.

For her many contributions to her community and to this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Mary Davis on her 108th birthday.

**40TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S DEATH**

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, "A nation reveals itself not only by [the individuals] it produces, but also by [those] it honors, [those] it remembers."

President John F. Kennedy spoke these words 40 years ago, less than a month before he was tragically killed in Dallas. On the 40th anniversary of that sad month, which lives so vividly in our memory, America honors and remembers President Kennedy. In doing so, we reveal once more the nation he imagined and the country we might yet become.

Like a generation of Americans, I carry with me strong memories of President Kennedy. As a college student standing on the grounds of the Capitol on a freezing cold January day, I listened to President Kennedy's enduring challenge now known the world over: "And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

And I have always remembered the less well-known—but equally important—line that followed: "My fellow citizens of the world: ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of mankind."

Those of us who lived through those awful November days 40 years ago will always remember the shock and never forget the sadness.

Yet on this anniversary we recall not how President Kennedy died, but rather, how he lived; not just the tragedy of a single day, but the triumphs of one thousand days—of a presidency and a President that guides us still.

The first American President born of the 20th Century, President Kennedy embodied the hopes, the optimism, the vigor and the vitality of a new generation of Americans. Inspired by his call to cross a New Frontier, America began a bold journey that would take us to the moon. Young, idealistic Americans entered public service and joined the Peace Corps. Courageous African-Americans became Freedom Riders, challenging the evils of segregation and leading to the greatest demonstration for justice in American history—the 1963 March on Washington.

A veteran of World War II, President Kennedy knew that in those dangerous days of the Cold War, military strength was essential, yet "war need not be inevitable." Through the crisis over Berlin and 13 days in October 1962, his resolve averted the unthinkable. And through it all he knew something we must never forget—America stands strongest when it stands with friends and allies.

Yet this Cold Warrior also knew that true and lasting peace demands the elimination of the fury of despair and instability that plagues too much of the world. President Kennedy's vision of a future where "the weak are safe and the strong are just" inspired those young Peace Corps volunteers to build a better world—combating poverty, illiteracy, disease and hunger.

A man of deep faith, President Kennedy knew that "here on earth God's work must truly be our own." And so this man of privilege challenged the nation to reject private comfort for the public interest to fight for higher wages for workers, housing and medical care for the poor, dignity and security for the elderly. And although he did not live to see the day, his vision of a more just America would come closer with the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Ever since his death, Americans have wondered—how might the days and years that followed have been different had he lived? Perhaps the more important questions might be—have we lived up to the challenge he issued so long ago? Have we kept alive the spirit and high purpose that he kindled? Have we achieved the national greatness that he imagined?

Forty years later, President Kennedy challenges us still. As we remember his death, let us rededicate ourselves—as a people, as a nation—to the principles and vision that defined his life. On this somber anniversary, there can be no higher tribute.

LUISA DELAURO'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate my mother, Luisa DeLauro, as she celebrates her 90th birthday on December 24th. She is—in every sense of the word—a remarkable person—someone who made a good life for herself and her family from the humblest beginnings.

From her, I learned the values I carry with me to this day—she taught me the meaning of